

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, and 13-15 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 3, 8, 12, and 16 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the specification and claims 1 and 6 are amended. The specification is amended to correct a typographical error. No new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amended claims is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (1) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (2) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution without incorporating additional subject matter; (3) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and/or (4) place the application in better form for appeal if necessary. Entry is thus requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Saita, U.S. Patent No. 6,054,803. Claims 3 and 12 are canceled. The rejection is respectfully traversed in so far as it applies to the remaining claims.

Saita discloses a color selecting mechanism 1 for a color cathode ray tube. The color selecting mechanism 1 includes supporting members 2, 3 and elasticity applying members 4, 5. A mask member or color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is stretched between the supporting members 2, 3. The color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is formed of a thin metal plate in which a number of thin belt shaped grid elements 8 are aligned in one direction at a

predetermined pitch and a slit shaped electron beam penetrating aperture 9 in a vertical direction of the picture screen is formed between respective neighboring grid elements 8. The color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is fixed on the opposing supporting members 2, 3 by means of seam welding. Reference numeral 17 designates a seam welded orbit and reference numeral 18 denotes a space or so called periphery portion between an end portion of the electron beam penetrating aperture 9 and the seam welded orbit 17. As can be seen in Figure 5 of Saita, the seam welded orbit 17 is a very thin area in which the color selecting electrode thin plate 10 is welded to the supporting member 2, 3.

Saita teaches that a relationship between a length “a” of a slit shaped electron beam aperture 9 to a distance “b” to the seam welded orbit 17 from an end portion of electron beam penetrating aperture 9, that is, “b/a” is set equal to or less than 2.5 percent. Further, the Examiner notes in his rejection that “[t]he distance of the non-effective area is shown to be slightly less than twice the width of the main frame 2,3 upper portion.” Thus, Saita fails to disclose or suggest a shadow mask satisfying the equation $0.14 \leq \frac{t_w}{t_m} \leq 0.5$ where t_w is a shortest distance from an outermost end of a main frame welded to said shadow mask to an interface between the effective area and the non-effective area and t_w a width of a mask welding part formed at an upper part of said main frame.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2, 4 and 9-11 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which they depend, as well as for their added features. In particular, with respect to dependent claim 2, Saita does not disclose or suggest an actual welding width of $t_w/2$ to t_w . That is, Saita merely discloses the very thin seam welded orbit 17.

The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claim 5 is allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for its added features.

The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita in view of Ragland, U.S. Patent No. 5,644,192, in further view of Takagi, U.S. Patent No. 5,406,168. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ragland and Takagi fail to overcome the deficiencies of Saita discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, as Ragland is merely cited for teaching use of a frame member having an outer end bent to slope inward to the shadow mask and Takagi is merely cited for teaching use of a frame plate to the upper part of which a shadow mask is welded. Accordingly, dependent claim 5 is allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for its added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 6-8 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saita, in view of Dietch et al. (hereinafter "Dietch"), U.S. Patent No. 4,737,681. Claims 8 and 16 are canceled. The rejection is respectfully traversed in so far as it applies to the remaining claims.

As discussed above, Saita fails to disclose or suggest a shadow mask satisfying the equation $0.14 \leq \frac{t_w}{t_m} \leq 0.5$, where t_w is a shortest distance from an outermost end of a main frame welded to said shadow mask to an interface between the effective area and the non-effective area and t_w a width of a mask welding part formed at an upper part of said main

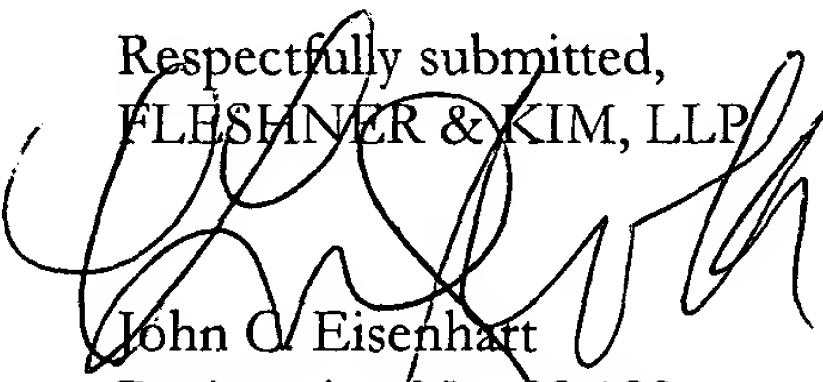
frame. Dietch fails to overcome the deficiencies of Saita, as Dietch is merely cited for teaching use of a shadow mask attached to rails.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 6 should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 7 and 13-15 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 6, from which they depend, as well as for their added features. In particular, with respect to dependent claim 7, Saita fails to disclose or suggest an actual welding width of $t_w/2$ to t_w . Rather, Saita merely discloses the very thin seam welded orbit 17.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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